

## REMARKS

As suggested by the Board, applicant has introduced the word "horizontally" into Claim 1. Amended  
5 claim 1 is clear, because the term "lifting body" is clearly defined in the relevant literature as a body that generates lift when passed through the air. This type of definition, based on functional properties, is clearly permitted in patent claiming. Any set of blades which  
10 when rapidly rotated and passed translationally, horizontally through the air does not thereby generate lift, falls outside of the scope of claim 1.

There are clear tests which can be annunciated to determine if a particular set of blades could be used  
15 to implement the method of claim 1. One test would be if a solid disk having the shape swept out would generate lift by being translated horizontally through the air. If it does not, then a set of blades sweeping out that shape would not fall within the scope of claim 1.

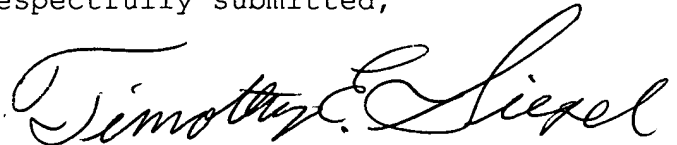
20 As for the Board's statement on page 6, beginning with, "[b]eing virtual...", it is applicant's position that this is exactly what happens. Lift is generated by the virtual disk being translated horizontally through real air. Applicant's dictionary  
25 defines virtual as "being such practically or in effect, though not in actual fact... ." It is not as if applicant is stating that an imaginary disk can pass through real air and generate real lift. The virtual disk is physical and real. Over time, it is a disk that is defined by the  
30 periodic presence of a blade at each spot in its extent. Experimentation has shown that it does generate lift.

Applicant believes that the claims are now in a condition for allowance, early notification of which is earnestly requested.

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Respectfully submitted,

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